

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL INTELLIGENCE

DIRECTIVE NO. 3¹

COORDINATION OF INTELLIGENCE PRODUCTION

(Effective 17 February 1972)

For the purpose of coordinating the intelligence production activities of the several Government departments and agencies in the interest of national security, and pursuant to the provisions of Section 102 of the National Security Act of 1947, as amended, the National Security Council hereby authorizes and directs that the following overall policies, objectives, categories of intelligence and allocations of responsibility be established.

1. *Basic Intelligence*

a. Basic intelligence is that factual intelligence that results from the collation of encyclopedic information of a fundamental and more or less permanent nature and that, as a result of evaluation and interpretation, is determined to be the best available.

b. An outline of all basic intelligence required by the Government shall be maintained by the Central Intelligence Agency in collaboration with the appropriate departments and agencies. This outline shall be broken down into chapters, sections and subsections, which shall be allocated as production and maintenance responsibilities to the Central Intelligence Agency and/or to those other departments or agencies of the Government that are best qualified by reason of mission, production capability, and primary interest to assume the production and maintenance responsibilities. To ensure the production of the basic intelligence required by the Government and the fullest possible use of current departmental and agency capabilities, changes in the outline or allocations of production and maintenance responsibilities shall be effected by agreement between the Director of Central Intelligence and the departments and agencies concerned.

c. Basic intelligence required in the interest of national security shall be compiled and continuously maintained in National Intelligence Surveys (NIS) to cover foreign countries, areas or broad special subjects, in accordance with National Security Council-approved NIS Standard Instructions and inter-departmental-approved amendments thereto. The National Intelligence Surveys will be disseminated in such form as shall be determined by the Director of Central Intelligence with the advice of the departments and agencies concerned.

d. The Director of Central Intelligence shall be responsible for coordinating production and maintenance and for accomplishing the review, publication and dissemination of these National Intelligence Surveys, and shall make such

¹This Directive supersedes NSCID No. 3 dated 18 January 1961.

requests of the departments and agencies as are necessary for proper development and maintenance of the Surveys.

c. Departments or agencies to be called on for contributions to this undertaking may include other than those represented permanently on the United States Intelligence Board.

2. Current Intelligence

a. Current intelligence is that intelligence of all types and forms of immediate interest usually disseminated without the delays incident to complete evaluation or interpretation.

b. The Central Intelligence Agency and the several departments and agencies shall produce and disseminate such current intelligence as may be necessary to meet their own internal requirements. The current intelligence produced by the Central Intelligence Agency is produced primarily to meet the needs of the President, National Security Council and other high-level consumers; in addition, it serves the common needs of the interested departments and agencies of the Government for current intelligence that they themselves do not produce. The departments and agencies will contribute to the Central Intelligence Agency current intelligence items and publications as appropriate and on a timely basis.

3. Departmental intelligence is that intelligence any department or agency requires to execute its own mission.

4. Interdepartmental intelligence is integrated departmental intelligence required by departments and agencies of the Government for the execution of their missions but transcending the exclusive competence of a single department or agency to produce. Joint intelligence is a special category of interdepartmental intelligence jointly produced by defense intelligence organizations in the performance of the assigned missions of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. Such subcommittee structure of the United States Intelligence Board as shall be established by the Director of Central Intelligence may be utilized for the production and dissemination of such forms of intelligence.

5. National intelligence is that intelligence required for the formulation of national security policy, concerning more than one department or agency and transcending the exclusive competence of a single department or agency. The production of national intelligence is covered in NSCID No. 1. Intelligence relating to the national security that has been produced as interdepartmental or departmental intelligence may also, when appropriate, be submitted to the Director of Central Intelligence for issuance as national intelligence by the Director of Central Intelligence as provided in NSCID No. 1.

6. Each department or agency, taking full cognizance of the facilities of the other agencies, shall maintain adequate research facilities to accomplish its departmental intelligence production mission and to provide such additional intelligence within its field of primary responsibilities as may be necessary to satisfy other requirements relating to the national security.

7. To ensure that the capabilities of the departments and agencies are utilized effectively for the production of intelligence of common concern, the following division of interests, subject to refinement through a continuous program of coordination and evaluation by the Director of Central Intelligence to promote an integration of effort and to avoid undesirable duplication, shall serve as a general delineation of primary responsibilities:

a. The Department of State shall produce political and sociological intelligence on all countries and economic intelligence on countries of the Free World.

b. The Department of Defense shall produce military intelligence. This production shall include scientific, technical and economic intelligence directly pertinent to the missions of the various components of the Department of Defense.

c. The Central Intelligence Agency shall produce economic, scientific and technical intelligence. Further, the Central Intelligence Agency may produce such other intelligence as may be necessary to discharge the statutory responsibilities of the Director of Central Intelligence.

d. The production of intelligence on atomic energy is a responsibility of all departments and agencies represented on the U.S. Intelligence Board with responsibilities for the production of finished intelligence, to be coordinated through the Joint Atomic Energy Intelligence Committee structure. ✓

8. Despite the above-mentioned allocations of primary production responsibilities, there will be areas of common or overlapping interest that will require continuing interagency liaison and cooperation. In the event that a requirement for intelligence is established for which there is not existing production capability, the Director of Central Intelligence, in consultation with the United States Intelligence Board, shall determine which of the departments and agencies of the intelligence community can best undertake the primary responsibility as a service of common concern.